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AGO D/A ltr 29 Apr 1980

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IN REPLY REFER TO

AGAM-P (M) (18 Dec 68) FOR OT UT 683028

24 December 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 29th Civil Affairs Company, Period Ending 31 July 1968

AD845794

SEE DISTRIBUTION

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BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

Kenneth G. Wickham

KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
29th Civil Affairs Company
APO San Francisco 96337

CA/29-0

8 August 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 29th Civil Affairs Company
for Period Ending 31 July 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1).

See Distribution

SECTION I

1. Section I, Operations: Significant Activities.

The 29th Civil Affairs Company was fully operational for the entire reporting period, 92 days.

The reporting period saw the company through its platoons in the field, continue to expand its activities and consolidate its gains made in reconstruction during the post Tet phase. Platoons activities during May continued to be somewhat restricted especially in the Quang Tri area near the DMZ due to the tactical situation.

This period also saw the implementation of the mission and concept of operation of the generalist platoons from the status of "doers" i.e. actually constructing or doing the work required, to that of acting as the catalyst, whose specialized Civil Affairs training provided the supporting units with the knowledge needed to survey needs in the CA/AOR and implement a reliable civic action program. The size of the platoons and the huge area that requires assistance in all areas of Civil Affairs and the relative inexperience and lack of training on the part of the unit S-5's have dictated our shift from a grass roots approach to the role of coordinator and catalyst. Improvements have been seen, as a result, in the elimination of duplication of effort, by individual unit S-5's, a stability of civic action programs and continuity of emphasis. The latter is due to our remaining in place while the major tactical units move and may change as much as 3 or 4 times in a reporting period thus causing much duplication and lack of continuity in trying to carry out their civic action command responsibility. This meant that all platoons made an all out effort to meet and coordinate with the supported units S-5's within their CA/AOR as well as with CORDS officials, ARVN and GVN officials where we are in support of these activities.

FOR OT RD
683028

ADMINISTRATION

During the last quarter the newly arrived 516th Personnel Service Company of the USA Support Command DNG had the time to become effective and administrative support to this unit was maximum. This, however, coupled with the reassignment of the 29th Civil Affairs Company from USARV to 1st Log, 9 July 1968 created problems in the area of requisitions. It was discovered that programming for personnel in some areas had not been properly fulfilled and USASUPLUM requisitions won't come into full effect until October 1968. While the 29th Civil Affairs Company implemented its new MTOE the authority to requisition personnel under this MTOE has not been granted. This made implementation of the new MTOE difficult in some aspect. Some excess personnel in areas no longer needed were reassigned, i.e. the mess section and public safety section authorized under the old MTOE. Correspondingly many of the jobs that are now allowed by the new MTOE are short of personnel, i.e. trying to create all eleven platoons instead of 6 and trying to provide 3 officers per platoon. As a result it has only been possible to field 9 platoons instead of 11 now tentatively approved by USARV but not yet approved by DA. Since the departure of CPT Dedeker in December 1967, no doctor has been assigned to the 29th. As a result, in the last quarter the public health team has existed in name only. Attempts had been made to maintain it using a medical specialist working under the supervision of the Assistant Operation Officer, but without a medical doctor it was learned that proper coordination could not be effected with medical agencies and the section's mission was limited to the point that it was more effective to employ the medical specialist in field location with platoons and dissolve the section. This has enabled the initiation of some small medical projects in specific areas, but in absence of a medical doctor to gain the interest of GVN in medical programs very little can be done in the way of large scale programs.

CIVILIAN SUPPLY

During the period 1 May through 31 July 1968, the Civilian Supply Team in coordination with III MAF G-5 continued to supply and transport large amounts of Civic Action material to military units in I Corps. In their location in Da Nang the team receives and acts as custodian for III MAF G-5, Operation Handclasp, CARE, Catholic Relief Service, CORDS, and other civic action materials. The Civilian Supply Officer also acts as purchasing agent for the USMCR/CARE Fund, III MAF AIK Fund and various other funds.

During this period, materials were received by the requesting unit faster than ever before because of a switch in the primary means of transportation from space available Air America, military aircraft and naval ships to organic motor transport. With the Civilian Supply Team's five 2½ ton trucks, (including one acquired in this period), and the opening and securing of Route One for the entire length of I Corps, motor transportation is often days quicker than waiting for a plane or ship.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

On May 15, 1968 the Food and Agriculture Team presented a six-month Agricultural projection to the Commanding Officer of the 29th CA Co. This 6 month program consists of three major fields; vegetable production, rice training and swine production.

The objective for vegetable production in I Corps is to develop "Green Belt" areas of vegetables around largely populated areas. The Food and Agriculture Team held a two day training session on 15-16 June for Civil Affairs field personnel. The purpose of this course was to train personnel in agricultural extension work in vegetable projects. Participants have the opportunity to apply the "learn by doing" technique in a vegetable plot in East Da Nang.

The Food and Agriculture Team during the first week in June started a Thon Nong-8 demonstration plot at Hill #63 in conjunction with the 51st CA Platoon. The Food and Agriculture Team has closely monitored the project since the planting of the "miracle rice". Trips are made to Hill #63 approximately every two weeks to assist the farmer in growing Thon Nong-8 Rice. Seed, fertilizer and insecticide have been provided to the farmer for this project.

On 27 June LT's Bivens and Beeler attended a meeting concerning Military Procurement of Vegetable in I Corps. Army Procurement Agency is interested in establishing a field purchasing office in I Corps for the procurement of vegetables for military consumption. The Food and Agriculture Team felt this was an ideal opportunity to increase vegetable production for the I Corps Region. Because of the importance of this program, LT Beeler and LT Bivens on 9-15 July traveled to Da Lat, Can Tho and Saigon to study marketing procedure of vegetables. During the month of July various contacts were established to set up Vietnamese vegetable vendors for military procurement program. Food and Agriculture Team along with Chinese Agricultural Technicals Mission and CORDS Agriculture Advisor for Region I and Hoa Vong District are working together to establish the market for vegetables in I Corps.

On 4 July 1968, the Food and Agriculture Team helped develop the Animal Vaccine Distribution System for the I Corps Animal Husbandry Provincial Services. For the first time good quality vaccine and storage facilities were made available for vaccination of animals in Region I.

The Food and Agriculture Team has been instrumental in the development of 4-T clubs for young farmers-to-be in I Corps. On 15-17 July 4-T training session was given in Quang Ngai City for 4-T Vietnamese technicians from all the I Corps Provinces. Seven members of the 29th CA Co., including LT Beeler, attended this training session presented by National 4-T GVN officials. The Food and Agriculture Team is assisting CORDS, Region I in assembling 4-T kits for the rural youth program.

LOGISTICS-SUPPLY

During the period, the supply room has undergone a complete renovation. We began with the frame of an old French billet and worked from the ground up. Most of the basic materials were picked up from large construction sites in the area. Assistance was provided by organic unit personnel and Seabees from the previously mentioned construction sites. By working after hours the three rooms of the supply complex were completed in approximately 2½ weeks time. A final renovation of the office has provided us with an office complete with floor tile, air conditioning, oak stained walls, and an acoustical tile ceiling. The finishing materials were purchased at the NSA self-service store.

The up-grading of the Da Nang Sub-Area Command to a Support Command has greatly improved the support available to us. A greater variety of supply items is available and the delay between requisition and issue has been reduced significantly. Many items formerly acquired through self-service, "scrounging" or "horsetrading" are now acquired through normal supply channels.

In the month of July, the unit acquired M-16 rifles and M-79 grenade launchers on temporary loan. This issue serves to increase the confidence of our units in outlaying areas in their ability to successfully defend themselves against small encounters with the enemy. In some areas, extreme difficulty was encountered in obtaining M-14 ammunition resupply. This problem has now been eliminated.

LOGISTICS-MOTOR POOL

There were two events of significance during the period in the maintenance field; the issue of 9 vehicles on temporary loan to this unit, and the establishment of a CC&S facility in the Da Nang area. The possession of the new vehicles has up-graded the quality of our rolling stocks considerably. The establishment of the CC&S facility has provided invaluable assistance to the maintenance work of this unit. By providing a supply point for serviceable replacement parts and parts which are non-supply items, the vehicles in this unit can be placed back on the road faster than Red Ball Express.

PLATOON OPERATIONS

Platoons continue to operate in our area support role while also being in general support of major units or PSA's in each of their respective areas. Some major accomplishments achieved by each platoon in their CA/AOR's are as follows:

1ST PLATOON 1st AA Platoon is in General Support of 3rd Marine 3rd Marine Division G-5.

The S-5 of the 12th Marines was given the responsibility for making solutium payments to the victims of the ammo dump explosion at Dong Ha Combat Base on 20 June 1968. The 1st AA Platoon assisted the S-5 by arranging payment times and locations with the Chief of Trieu Phong District, by providing transportation for the payments, and by providing a witnessing officer who also served as an armed guard. More than 500 homes were damaged by the explosion and needed assistance.

The 1st AA Platoon contacted both PSYOPS and EOD at Dong Ha Combat Base. This contact was made because of the large number of artillery, rocket and mortarrounds that were scattered about the countryside. EOD stated they had to pick up the rounds within the compound first. The platoon then contacted PSYOPS and asked that they inform the Vietnamese not to touch the rounds. PSYOPS provided a loudspeaker announcement on 21 June 1968 and leaflet drop the following day. No one was injured as a result of those efforts, and EOD had the rounds picked up by 29 June 1968.

2ND AA PLATOON 2nd Platoon is in General Support of the PSA (Province Senior Advisor) for Quang Nam.

Effective 10 May 1968, Provincial Service Chiefs, Quang Nam Province, or their representatives, have accompanied the platoon commander to districts on those evaluation trips of self-help civic action projects that pertain to their particular department. Four of the most active Provincial Departments are Public Works and Utilities, Public Education, Public Health and RD Current Affairs. This activity is significant in that it helps to expedite the processing type of each project submittal request. Both the Service Chief and the Platoon Commander are required to sign the project submittal request and include their comments and decision. Questions pro and con on the projects can be answered on the spot. Finally, the originating agency of the request will have advance knowledge on whether or not the project will receive approval or disapproval. These events will also help establish GVN presence in the country side, and will ultimately help us to work ourselves out of a job, by helping the GVN to become self-reliant.

3RD AA PLATOON 3rd Platoon is in General Support of the 1st Marine Division G-5.

Great strides have been made in the agricultural program during the reporting period. Five pilot plots have been planted in the CA/AOR and plans are to enlarge the present area of endeavor and introduce an even wider variety of vegetables; Chinese Cabbage, radishes, cucumbers, bush beans and watermelons. The pig project at Nom My (AT 899821) continues to be one of our outstanding projects. A farmers cooperative has been organized in Don Son (AT 963765). The primary purpose of this cooperative is to provide and care for the Yorkshire Boar we delivered there recently. The boar will be used to crossbreed with the Vietnamese sows in that area. The hot climatic condition continues to prevent the development of a successful rabbit project.

4TH PLATOON The 4th AA Platoon is in General Support of the 11th Light Infantry Brigade, Americal Division.

Duc Pho District during the period has remained relatively secure except for mining and minor ambushing incidents. During this reporting period, platoon members were involved in four ambushes and snipings.

The platoon continued to make contact with the local village chiefs to gain knowledge of their desires and needs as well as to consolidate working relationships.

During this period this platoon saw the completion of schools in Tach Tru, Duc Pho and Da Huynh. A total of 17 additional classrooms were brought into use in Duc Pho District.

The construction of a hospital for the Sa Huynh area was begun on 8 May 1968. It progressed well during the month of June and was completed on 25 July 1968. The Province Medical Service will soon be sending personnel to staff the hospital. This hospital will greatly enhance the ability of the government to meet the needs of its people.

The platoon also helped to develop a newspaper and establish television in Duc Pho. The VIS (Vietnamese Information Service) has been very cooperative and has established an excellent working relationship with them. The platoon in cooperation with VIS is showing Vietnamese health movies, a propaganda and American film to the people of the Duc Pho once a week. Average attendance is about 600.

5TH AA PLATOON The 5th Platoon is assigned in general support of the Province Senior Advisor of Thua Thien Province in Hue.

The month of May was a critical period in the rebuilding program of Hue. This platoon was instrumental in the distribution of building commodities to the districts in Hue, and the surrounding districts in the province. During May, the 5th AA Platoon moved 680 bags of cement to Huong Tra District Headquarters and 832 bags of cement to Huong Thuy District Headquarters and 1987 bags of cement to the districts in Hue City. In keeping with the implementation of the coordinator role, a close working atmosphere was established with the G-5's, S-5's and civic action teams of military units within the Province. This helped to promote the consultation by the Unit S-5's with the Sub-Sector Advisors in every case of civic action within their districts. An example of this was the civil affairs survey conducted by this platoon for LTC Rumph, G-5, 1st Air Cavalry Division on 23-25 June 1968. This survey was of great benefit to the G-5 section of the 1st Air Cavalry Division. This visit by the members of the 5th AA Platoon resulted in the establishment of closer coordination between the 1st Air Cavalry G-5 and the Sub-Sector Advisor of Phong Dien and Huong Dien Districts.

6TH AA PLATOON 6th AA Platoon is in general support of the American G-5.

There has been no significant change in the civic action pacification program in the Chu Lai Area. The 6th AA Platoon continues to provide support to all units conducting civic action

programs as directed by the Americal Division G-5. VC activities in the area have been centered on the harassment of refugee hamlets, culminating in the destruction of Son Tra Refugee Hamlet on 28 June 1968. In this incident a VC sapper squad, 12 men, entered the Son Tra Hamlet destroying 571 houses and killing 79 civilians, RD, Armed Youth. The enemy gained entrance into the hamlet by cutting through the security fence in front of an unmanned bunker. The 6th AA Platoon provided immediate assistance as directed by the Americal Division G-5, with the delivery of clothes, food, blankets. Civic action operations in Son Tra were later turned over to 41-5 AA Platoon from Quang Ngai Province. The Public Health, Public Welfare, Public Education, and Agricultural fields continue to make up the major portion of 6th AA Platoon's civic action program. Considerable progress has been made in all these fields.

7TH AA PLATOON 7th AA Platoon is in general support of 1st Marine Division T. F. X-Ray.

With the Tet refugee situation under complete control by 1 May the platoon turned to other areas to serve the people. During May 1968 plans were laid by MAG 36, under the direction of Father Harris, to build a large hospital in Phu Luong Hamlet (YD 863159). The immense complications of building, staffing and equipping a modern hospital has kept the project from actual construction as yet. But when the project is eventually completed, it will be a landmark in Thua Thien Province.

An acre sized stagnant pond in the above hamlet was filled with dirt to eliminate the unsanitary conditions it was causing.

The largest project ever undertaken by this platoon is now taking form. A dam at Phu Bai VI, a hamlet of Thuy Phu Village, one mile south of the Phu Bai military complex, was initiated on 1 July and after one month is estimated to be 20 to 25% complete. This project was approved by Col Than, Col Bowen, Province Chief and PSA. (Province Senior Advisor)

After the plans were drawn by Vietnamese engineers the materials were delivered in part to the site. One thousand bags of cement, thirty five-ton loads of select sand and 200 cubic meters of gravel. In addition, 150 bridge timbers and miscellaneous lumber have been provided for building forms and the foundation structure.

On 3 July CPT Marcus took bids from four Vietnamese civilian contractors for the purchase of gravel. Gravel was requested through III MAF channels but was unavailable. Therefore, the III MAF G-5, US Marine Corps Reserve Fund was used to purchase the necessary materials. 244,000 \$VN were spent for this purpose.

On 15 July the platoon purchased a gas operated water pump using Task Force X-Ray, 1st Marine Division Funds (20,000\$VN). This is being used to keep the excavation relatively dry from seepage and rainfall.

The logistical support needed in the form of dump trucks, front loader and huge quantities of difficult to acquire materials causes the expenditure of roughly 80% of the platoons time on this one project. There is no prediction on when the dam will be finished, but the goal is to complete it before the monsoon start. This dam, when in operation, will benefit over 6,000 Vietnamese people through increased irrigation and water conservation on 1,100 acres of land, as well as preventing salt water intrusion.

8TH AA PLATOON:

This platoon continues to operate in general support of the USA of Quang Tri. The platoon personnel are billeted in the MACV compound in Quang Tri City and has its office located in the Province Headquarters. This office was established on 4 July 68.

The La Vang Brick Factory which was constructed and has been administered by this platoon since its inception is currently producing better than 1000 bricks per day. In keeping with the concept of developing the indigenous economy and helping the Vietnamese to become self-sufficient the project was officially turned over to the Vietnamese on 23 July 68 so they could run it completely on their own without our assistance.

Several personnel from the platoon supervised the laying of the distribution line for the large Cam Lo water reservoir project. The line is approximately a mile and a half long and was laid by the Vietnamese under platoon supervision.

5TH PLATOON: The 5th Platoon is in general Sup ort of the Province Senior Advisor, Quang Tin.

During the past reporting period, the platoon has gone through a period of reorganization. Special emphasis has been placed on liaison with civilian organizations that perform similar type duties. CORDS and American Red Cross coordination has been established to avoid duplication of projects and/or to coordinate on supply resources that each may have. Special efforts have been made to improve relations with the Senior Province Advisor, Deputy Province Advisor and to improve avenues of communications.

Special emphasis has been placed on vehicle maintenance. This has been accomplished by pulling 1st echelon maintenance daily and using Saturday afternoons for pulling motor stables. This unit has also coordinated with the 8th Support Battalion, Chu Lai for assistance in the acquisition of parts and vehicle maintenance and repair.

The platoon continues to place emphasis on the refugee camps of Hau Duc (BT033037), Tien Phuoc (BT110130) and Ky Tra (BT405115).

41-3AA PLATOON:

The 41st-3AA Platoon continues to support the refugees of Quang Tri Province under the supervision of and in general support of the PSA. This platoon is billeted at the MACV Compound located at Quang Tri City. The platoon at present has three officers and 1 enlisted man.

The efforts of our platoon in May were almost exclusively devoted to transporting commodities to the refugee villages in the provinces.

Despite lack of transportation support during May our platoon was still able to distribute a considerable amount of materials and commodities; cement (2620 bags), roofing tin (4245 sheets), salad oil (420 gals), rolled oats (2100 lbs), beans (6250 lbs), plus a number of blackboards, shoes, toys and soap.

On 28 May construction was started on a four-room school house in Cam Lo District. Subsequent completion date was 12 June 1968.

During the month of June the majority of our efforts were directed at the Cam Lo Water Project. A representative of the platoon remained at Cam Lo Sub-Sector on detached duty while work progressed on the project. It was during this month that water was first pumped from the river to the reservoir for the refugees of Cam Lo.

Seventy five (75) tons of sand was moved from Bi Tu to Cam Lo District for the Water Project, a task which took three (3) days.

During the last week of June our efforts were switched from Cam Lo Water Project to the Montagnard Resettlement Project. The move started from the 1st of July. During the first day half of the 5,000 refugees were moved from Cam Lo Resettlement Village (YD 117567) to Cua Valley (YD 080511). The second day saw the remainder of the people moved into the valley where final homesites were chosen. LT Lowe and Mr. Quang, Representative of MSWR, supervised the distribution of 10,060 sheets of aluminum roofing to be used in the construction of homes for the refugees. The 379 bags of rice donated by the German Red Cross was also distributed.

Elements of the 1st AA Platoon, 8th AA Platoon, 5th AA Platoon and 7th AA Platoon from neighboring Thua Thien Province were employed to assist in this large scale resettlement of refugees. The move was made in conjunction with military units who 1st swept the area to clear it of possible enemy presence. Half of the team remained in Cua Valley to help work with the Brou until the 14th of July. During this time the other half of the team resumed work on the Cam Lo Water Project.

On 22 July 1968, the Cam Lo Water Project was officially opened. General Davis, Commanding General 3rd Marine Division, and Col Am, Quang Tri Province Chief, opened the valves which allowed water to flow from the reservoir to distribution points along Rt. 9.

The last significant event of July was a county fair held on 30 July in conjunction with a sector operation in Cua Viet, Gio Linh (324695). During this one day operation the platoon with the support of CORDS and the Junk Fleet was able to move 46,000 lbs of rolled oats and 1,000 gal. of salad oil to the refugees at Cua Viet

41-10 AA PLATOON:

During the reporting period the 10th AA Platoon shifted 80% of its strength and support to the Tien Phuoc and Hau Duc districts of Quang Tin Province.

During the month of May, the road from Tam Ky to Tien Phuoc was opened. Operation "Burlington Trail" was a complete success. The opening of the road has allowed us to ship much needed civilian supplies thus alleviating the black market price in the villages of this area.

During this reporting period, over 35,000 lbs of food commodities were distributed along with 2,000 lbs of clothing in Tien Phuoc district.

During the month of July, the 10th AA Platoon directed its support to the Hau Duc District of Quang Tin Province, where the VC had destroyed over 150 homes in the village. On 8 July over 30,000 lbs of rice was delivered to Hau Duc District. Construction is now under way on the destroyed homes. 30,000 lbs of rice was delivered to the district for refugee families. Serum for sick animals is on its way from Saigon. To alleviate the water problem, 20 wells are planned for villages in the district.

41-16 AA Platoon: 41-16 AA Platoon is in General Support of PSA Hoi An.

During the reporting period, the members of the 16 AA Platoon assisted Quang Nam Provinces Ministry of Health, Social Welfare and relief in the monitoring and distribution of Tet relief payments. Those payments are to all those people affected by the Viet Cong attacks during the now historic Tet Offensive. The payments started on 1 May and the following districts have had the Tet relief payments completed; Hieu Nhon District (BT 011728), Quo Son District (BT 038348), Duc Duc District (BT862478), Dai Loc District (AT915576), Dien Ban District (BT 067582), and the city of Hoi An (BT 145570). The other districts, Hoa Yang (BT 163576), Hieu Duc (AT 929688), and Duy Xuyen (BT 066515), will be completed by 15 August 1968.

A new survey of the refugee camps was initiated in Quang Nam Province, during the reporting period. The survey shows, the total refugee population, camp condition, number of wells, latrines, schools, status of refugee income from relief payments, numbers of ablebodied workers, and work available. So far all camps in Hieu Nhon District (BT 011728), have been completed. The

information will be compiled on IBM read-out cards for quick reference, and projects soon will be started in the camps.

27 May, 16AA Platoon hired 250 refugee laborers to begin construction work at the Hoi An Airstrip (BT 142475). The laborers set in place metal matting (PSP) for a helicopter parking area and filled a depression with 20,000 cubic meters of sand, so that a passenger loading area could be constructed. Later during the reporting period, 20 laborers placed another 40 meters of PSP for an extension of the runway, total wages paid to the laborers - 142,560 VN\$. The 102 ARVN Engineers supplied the technical supervisors for the project. This greatly improves the aircraft receiving capability in the Hoi An area.

Work on the addition (complete with sleeping quarters, latrine and kitchen) to the Hoi An Catholic Orphanage, (BT 144574), was completed on 11 June 1968. The total cost of the project was 173,329 VN\$. The average cost per square feet was 65.08 VN\$. The project took 66 work days to complete for an average of 12 refugee workman. An additional 6,830 bricks secured from the 7th Engineers USMC, 160 pieces of rebar, and 25 two-by-fours were secured for the building of a dispensary and playground. Construction of this project is going on at this time.

The 16AA Platoon has been given the responsibility of monitoring and distributing of refugee relief commodities released thru American Civilian Supply and GVN supply channels. The quantity of surplus moved to refugees during the reporting period is too numerous to mention. For example in the last two weeks of the reporting period, 200 pieces of rebar, 1184 bags of bulgar, 606 bags of corn, 160 cases of salad oil, 300 bags of beans and lesser quantities of other food and materials were issued.

Released to Milphap Team # 2 at the Hoi An Hospital (BT 148569), 1,050 bricks for the use in building an incinerator for disposing of medical waste.

16AA Platoon has been actively involved in securing and shipping of tents, pots, pans, blankets, beans, oats, rice and other supplies needed for emergency relief of newly generated refugees. Shipments were sent to An Tan Camp, (AT 937706), Nieu Duc District, where 41 families, left homeless, as a result of an erratic mortar round. In Nieu Nhon District shipments of commodities went to Thanh Tay Camp (BT 124571), where 41 families and 30 homes were destroyed by a VC attack during the night. A total of 35 tons of beans, corn and salad oil was airlifted and shipped by convoy to 1,200 newly generated refugees from the Phu Da # 1 hamlet (AT 867499) Duc Duc District, after a VC attack that destroyed 90% of the village on 24 July.

51ST AA PLATOON: 51st AA Platoon is in General Support of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade of the Americal Division.

On 6 May 1968 the meeting house in Phu Huong was finished and on 10 May 1968 the Catholic Church in Phu Kiep was completed. The dedication of the market place in Phu Kiep took place on 17 May 1968, this project enhanced the commercial activities of this village.

The platoon coordinated with Delta Company of the 9th Marine Engineers, to build a dam across the Song Ly River (BT 146457). This dam was completed during the last week of May and enabled the people of Phu Huong to plant their crops three weeks earlier. This dam diverts water into the irrigation ditches of Phu Huong Village.

During the past three months the platoon has coordinated the building of five wells, a latrine and shower. Orders have been placed for water pumps. These will be installed at strategic wells throughout our AO. Together with the building of latrines, wells and schools, the platoon teaches proper sanitary methods and provides the local schools with teaching materials to enhance this program.

Dispensaries have been started at Que Son District Headquarters and Phu Huong Village, at the present time there are no medical facilities in either of these areas.

The platoon initiated, with the help of the 29th Civil Affairs Company's Agriculture Team, an I-R&C project. To date this project is very successful.

On 24 May 1968 the platoon presented LTC Hugo W. Nauschuetz, Commanding Officer, 29th Civil Affairs Company, with the 50,000th brick produced at the platoon's brick factory in Phu Huong.

Between the period 1 May 1968 to 31 July 1968 the platoon distributed 1,383 bags of cement, 300 sheets of tin and the following lumber: 200, 2X4's, 100, 1X6's, 50, 4X4's plus 70, 3/4 ton loads of scrap lumber. 12,000 pounds of rice were distributed to Vietnamese Nationals, together with 500 pounds of other food stuffs.

450 school kits, 11 blackboards and 2,000 bars of soap were distributed to the schools in the platoons AO. 2,000 rice bags were distributed to the tactical units of the 196th Infantry Brigade and 500 tons of laterite and 100 tons of sand were hauled to the various projects within the platoons AO.

SECTION II

2. Section II, Lessons Learned: Commander's Observation, Evaluation and Recommendations,

a. PERSONNEL.

(1) Promotion of Newly Arrived Personnel.

(a) Observation: Many 2LT's are arriving at this unit at the time they are due for promotion to 1LT. However, in many cases the individual does not have a DA Form 78 (Recommendation for Promotion) in his possession or in his 201 file. This has caused a number of delays in promotions while recommendations are being wired for and caused some individuals to suffer loss of pay.

(b) Evaluation: The system of mailing DA Form 78's to gaining Commands in RVN is not wholly effective as a large percentage of personnel never reach the unit they are originally ordered to. There is no extra cost to include a copy of the DA Form 78 in an individual's 201 File previous to his departure from his losing Command.

(c) Recommendations: That command emphasis be placed on insuring that individuals departing CONUS stations so as to be eligible for promotion upon or shortly after arrival in Vietnam, be accompanied by a copy of their DA Form 78 for ease in timely promotion within gaining Commands in RVN.

b. OPERATIONS.

(1) School Books.

(a) Observation: Vietnamese school books are normally available through the Province Public Education System. Military can assist the schools in their districts in this endeavor as a civic action project, however, care must be taken in the proper handling of these type projects.

(b) Evaluation: The problems in handling these type projects are lack of knowledge of the GVN Education System, to include the requesting and processing procedures, and poor coordination between the civic action units in the field, those at Province level, and the Provincial Officials.

(c) Recommendation: The first thing that one must know is that Vietnamese school books are accountable; therefore, it will require that a Vietnamese school official, normally the school principle, receipt for the books. Knowing this, requests should be submitted utilizing the established procedures within your Province and include as a minimum, the name of the school, the number of books requested to include the quantities by school grades, the name of the individual that will receipt for the books and other pertinent information required by your Province Education Service Chief.

(2) Purchasing of Land by U.S. Officials to be Donated to GVN.

(a) Observation: In performing civic action functions, it sometimes becomes necessary to purchase land to complete the project. GVN has no funds with which to purchase land. Unless land can be obtained which already belongs to GVN, the land must be purchased with U.S. funds.

(b) Evaluation: Land purchased with U.S. funds for civic action functions, cannot be retained as U.S. property and must be donated to GVN for their control and maintenance. When purchase of land is being contemplated, many problems arise in trying to establish true ownership of the land. Frequently the land is leased and sub-let. Obviously, for such a project as this, leasing of the land is not in the best interest of all concerned.

(c) Recommendation: In purchasing land for civic action functions, ascertain that the purchase is being made from the true owner of the land. Do not expand any funds until the true owner of the land has been established.

(3) Acceptance of School by Ministry of Education, Saigon.

(a) Observation: A major project, such as the School for the Blind, requires that it be accepted by the Ministry of Education, Saigon, as part of its education system.

(b) Evaluation: The acceptance of the school into the education system will establish the necessary funds and personnel to insure its proper control and maintenance by GVN. In order to receive proper support for a project of this type, it is best to establish a Provincial Sponsoring Committee. This committee should consist of GVN officials, i.e. Village council members. This encourages participation by GVN and the local populace, and precludes any opportunity of corruption. Participation by GVN insures the school's acceptance into the education system.

(c) Recommendation: In contemplating a project of this type, the Province Chief or his deputy should be encouraged to organize a sponsoring committee as outlined in preceding paragraph. The primary function and responsibility of the committee will be to administer control and manage the affairs of the project and the school until acceptance by the Ministry of Education is confirmed.

(4) Coordination with District Chief for Receipt of Building Materials.

(a) Observation: We have had some problems with some materials allocated for certain projects being picked up by the District Chief without our knowledge. This has prevented our close monitoring of projects to insure prompt construction and proper use of materials.

(b) Evaluation: Because we deliver building materials and monitor all construction projects, it is necessary that this platoon have knowledge of what materials are being drawn from Province and what is being done with those materials.

(c) Recommendation: The platoon should endeavor to establish close liaison with the District and Sub-Sector Advisor to make him aware of our position and why it is imperative that we have knowledge of the whereabouts of project materials. Although the materials should issue from Province through the Vietnamese channels, a memorandum kept by the Sub-Sector Advisor and sent to the platoon would insure that all parties would be kept well-informed.

(5) Getting Project to Completion.

(a) Observation: Often when a project is started, the people become reluctant to continue steadily working until the project is completed. As an excuse for not working, they are repeatedly requesting various supplies before they will work.

(b) Evaluation: Since the people usually have sufficient materials, available, the problem becomes one of simply getting them to work.

(c) Recommendation: Normally the best policy is to inform the village chief that the district chief is highly interested in their project and he wishes to see it completed as soon as possible. If this doesn't motivate the village chief, mention of a visit to the district chief will normally provide the necessary impetus to bring the project to completion.

(6) Procedure for Planting Vegetables and Subsequent Cultural Practices.

(a) Observation: Previous attempts have been made to raise vegetables in this area, but the only attempt was handing the farmers a packet of seeds and hope that he plants them. Also once the seeds are planted, one cannot just tell the farmer to perform some cultural practice, but must show him.

(b) Evaluation: One cannot simply hand farmers seeds that they know nothing about and expect them to plant and raise these vegetables. The depth to plant, the width of the seed bed, etc, must all be explained and demonstrated to them. In addition one cannot tell them to construct such things as shade structures and expect them to construct immediately without some sort of assistance.

(c) Recommendation: One must help the farmers prepare their seedbed, plant, and perform all cultural practices. They need advice and assistance and are very appreciative of help rendered.

(7) Monitoring of GVN Projects.

(a) Observation: It has been found that GVN officials don't care to travel into relatively insecure areas where GVN civic action projects are taking place.

(b) Evaluation: The lack of supervision by GVN officials concerning civic action projects leads to discontinuation of projects and reluctance to start new ones.

(c) Recommendation: Civil Affairs platoon leaders keep in constant contact with Province leaders. Therefore, when GVN officials fail to appear in the field their American counterpart can be contacted and advised of the status of the project so appropriate advisory action can be taken.

(8) Transporting CORDS Materials by Military Aircraft.

(a) Observation: Occasionally military aircraft is used to transport CORDS material.

(b) Evaluation: Most civilians working in the logistics section of CORDS are not familiar with the proper method of slinging loads from military helicopters.

(c) Recommendation: Whenever coordinating the movement of civic action materials via helicopter, make arrangements to have trained military personnel on hand to hook the slings, otherwise serious delays and the loss of material take place.

(9) Use for Wooden Ammunition Boxes.

(a) Observation: During the recent trips into refugee camps for survey purposes, there were innumerable cases where houses built by the refugees, using bamboo matting, poles and tin roofing have collapsed due to excess weight on bamboo poles or deterioration of the walls due to weathering.

(b) Evaluation: In many refugee camps bamboo and bamboo matting or other home building materials are very hard to find. Many materials like tin roofing are too expensive for displaced persons to buy.

(c) Recommendation: Many refugee camps, hamlets and villages are located near military units which use 4.2, 82mm, or 155mm artillery pieces. The ammo boxes which are usually discarded can be picked up and given to the people to build a home. It takes approximately 50, 4.2 mortar ammunition boxes to construct a small dwelling. The houses are sturdy, lasting, strong and make a much nicer permanent dwelling.

(10) Sanitation and Contamination of Drinking Wells.

(a) Observation: Many wells in villages and hamlets in Vietnam are used for multipurpose activities -- washing, bathing and drinking. Many wells that have possessed drinkable water in the past are now contaminated, many of the villagers complain.

(b) Evaluation: It should be explained and shown to the people that water which is used for bathing and the washing of clothes and is thrown on the ground near the apron of the well should be allowed to drain away from the well and not allowed to sink down into the ground and contaminate the watertable from which the drinkable well water is drawn.

(c) Recommendation: Have the people construct a drainage culvert around the apron of the well and drain away from the wells. This drainage culvert can be constructed either by cement or 155mm shell casing cut in half and laid end to end.

(11) Non use of Latrines Constructed in Refugee Camps.

(a) Observation: Many of the latrines constructed in refugee camps are still operable, but not being used.

(b) Evaluation: Latrines constructed in each camp are based on the population of the camp - 1 latrine per every ten males and 1 latrine per every 10 females. With 10 persons using one latrine, we have found that no one will take the responsibility for the cleanliness and sanitation of each latrine.

(c) Recommendation: In the future build the latrines by family census. Assign each family one commode and the responsibility for its sanitation and up-keep.

(12) Proper Utilization of Transportation Support.

(a) Observation: It has been noted that some vehicles have not been utilized to their fullest capacity.

(b) Evaluation: Due to the lack of transportation support vehicles should be used to transport commodities on the return trip as well. With proper coordination a load for the return trip can be arranged.

(c) Recommendation: With the proper coordination vehicles should be utilized on their return trips whenever possible so that they do not return empty.

(13) Issuing Materials for Projects:

(a) Observation: It has been noted that while issuing materials for projects, the materials were not being used for the purpose for which they were intended.

(b) Evaluation: It is important to clarify with the Vietnamese what materials are to be used for what projects, and to try and to get them to name a starting date.

(c) Recommendation: It is important to return to projects every few days to check on progress. It is also important to keep a count of amount of material issued to insure it doesn't become misused.

(14) Combat Units Performing MEDCAPS.

(a) Observation: From the lack of coordination with other units and District Headquarters several units held MEDCAPS in the same location.

(b) Evaluation: This causes some of the hamlets to get all the medical help while others get none or very little.

(c) Recommendation: MEDCAPS should be thoroughly coordinated with other units in the area by the local Civil Affairs Unit and also with the District Chiefs.

(15) Waste effort Because of Poor Project Planning.

(a) Observation: Occasionally a project is partially completed when it is discovered that an initial element should have been done differently, or one of the participants wants to change this or change that.

(b) Evaluation: Inadequate pre-planning and rushing into projects prior to thorough coordination with local participants causes wasted time and effort and unnecessary delays.

(c) Recommendations: All projects should be planned thoroughly before any activity begins at the project site. All details should be considered and resolved. Thorough coordination should be made with all participants to insure that all understand the entire concept and objective of the project. A complete plan should be developed and followed. This would not eliminate all changes after a project has been started, but it would keep changes to a minimum.

(16) Large Purchases of Materials from Vietnamese Civilians.

(a) Observation: It should be noted that after making a large purchase of materials such as sand or gravel, etc., from Vietnamese civilian businessmen, it is a good practice to pay only for what you receive at a specific time if the total is spread over a time period. Your stock pile may be partially pilfered by local Vietnamese unless guarded and then the loss is yours.

(b) Evaluation: Pay by the truck load or only what is delivered to your area of operation, such as the construction site.

(c) Recommendation: Do not make lump sum payments before materials are in your possession and totally secure.

(17) Coarse Sand for Construction projects.

(a) Observation: While very fine grain is plentiful in most areas, coarse heavy sand which is preferred by Vietnamese and requires less cement per cubic meter of mixed concrete is often hard to find. If funds are available, coarse sand can be purchased from the economy, but this increases the cost of the project and diverts funds that could be used for other purposes. A source of coarse sand can usually be found at the beach at the base of a cliff or hill where erosion has washed sand and stone toward the sea.

(b) Evaluation: Monoy can be saved and a better working relationship can be established with the Vietnamese people if good sand is provided.

(c) Recommendation: Where coarse sand is difficult to find, look on the beach at the base of a cliff or hill.

(18) Salaries of Vietnamese Labor.

(a) Observation: In many instances military civic action teams pay Vietnamese laborers too much money in relation to their normal salaries,

(b) Evaluation: Overpaying local labor causes inflation on a relative scale. Once a laborer is overpaid, he will no longer be available at the normal salary of that particular profession. The consequences of such actions can be extremely serious and will normally result in the loss of respect for U.S. personnel.

(c) Recommendation: Military civic action teams should check with their AIK Fund Custodian prior to the hiring of local Vietnamese labor.

(19) Lack of Trust in the GVN Supply and Requisition System.

(a) Observation: The majority of the Vietnamese people feel that the GVN supply and requisition system is too slow and inefficient. In almost every case, they will ask Americans for material assistance before resorting to their own system.

(b) Evaluation: If the Vietnamese do not use their own systems, the GVN will never be able to gain respect, support and trust for GVN.

(c) Recommendation: All military civic action teams should encourage local leaders to follow the established requisition system in obtaining building commodities for projects.

(20) Unnecessary MEDCAPS.

(a) Observation: MEDCAPS sometimes are not really carried out for the people who need them most. MEDCAPS carried out in the urban and suburban areas are not really necessary because these people have at their disposal adequate medical facilities in the surrounding hospitals and dispensaries.

(b) Evaluation: The people in rural areas do not have adequate facilities for medical attention, and are, there-

force, in need of frequent MEDCAPS.

(c) Recommendation: A coordinated system must be established with military unit's S-5's, whereby a team is ready on a certain day and time with adequate transportation provided. These teams would be made up of doctors, medics, and interpreter/translators. They should be transported to the needy areas at least twice a week.

- (c) Training: None
- (d) Intelligence: None
- (e) Logistics: None
- (f) Organization: None
- (g) Other: None

2 Incl

- 1. Structure of
51st CA Platoon
- 2. Structure of
41st CA Platoons

Hugh W. Nauschuetz
HUGH W. NAUSCHUETZ
LTC, ARTY
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:

- 3-Hq USARV APO 96375
- 2-Hq USARPAC APO 96558
- 7-Hq 80th GS Gp APO 96349

AVCA-DNG-80-CO (8 Aug 68) 1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 29th Civil Affairs Company
for Period Ending 31 July 1968, RCS CS R-6⁵ (R1).

DA, Headquarters, 80th General Support Group, Da Nang, APO 96349 10 Aug 68

TO: Commanding General, US Army Support Command, (Prov) DNG APO 96349

1. The Operational Report - Lessons Learned submitted by 29th Civil Affairs Company for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1968 is forwarded.

2. Concur with basic report. The report is considered adequate.

1 Incl
as

M.J. CARACCIA
Colonel, QMC
Commanding

Copy Furnished
29th CA Co w/1st Ind

AVCA-DNG-GO-H (8 Aug 68) 2nd Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of 29th Civil Affairs Company for Period Ending
31 July 1968, RCS CSFORN-65 (R-1)

DA, Headquarters, US Army Support Command, Da Nang (Prov), ARD 96349 16 AUG 1968
TO: Commanding General, 1st Logistical Command, ATTN: AVCA-GO-O, ARD 96384
Forwarded in accordance with USARV Regulation 525-15 and 1st Logistical
Command Regulation 525-15.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

James R May
JAMES R. MAY
CPT, AGC
Asst Adjutant General

AVCA GO-0 (8 Aug 68) 3rd Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of 29th Civil Affairs Company for Period
Ending 31 July 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (R-1)

DA, Headquarters, 1st Logistical Command, APO 96384

6 SEP 1968

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATTN: AVHGC-DST,
APO 96375

1. The Operational Report - Lessons Learned submitted by 29th Civil
Affairs Company for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1968 is for-
warded.

2. Concur with the basic report. The report is considered adequate.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

John S. Waddell

TEL: LBN 2684

John S. Waddell

2 Incl
nc

ILT, AGC

Assistant Adjutant General

Copy Furnished
29th Civil Affairs Co
80th Gen Sup Gp
USASUPCOM, DNG

AVPDP-DST (8 Aug 68) 4th Ind MAJ Klingman/ds/LDN 4433
SUBJ: Operational Report of 29th Civil Affairs Company for Period
ending 31 July 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

TO: ADJUTANT GEN, UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 28 OCT 1968

CC: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOC-DT, APO
96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1968 from Headquarters, 29th Civil Affairs Company.

2. Comments follow:

a. Reference item concerning administration, personnel programming, page 2: This headquarters receives adequate and timely requisitions, and except for these skills which are short Army-wide, shortfalls are not anticipated.

b. Reference item concerning administration, MTOE, page 2: The units are authorized to requisition personnel upon USARV approval of the MTOE, although the fill of such requisitions will not be undertaken until approval of the MTOE by DA.

c. Reference item concerning administration, Medical Officer, page 2: Presently this command is able to fill only 75% of the Medical Corps requirements and seldom exceeds 90% of the requirements. The USARV surgeon assigns patient-related requirements a higher priority than to the preventive medicine requirements.

d. Reference item concerning promotion of newly arrived personnel, page 15, paragraph 2a: Concur. The problem is widespread and was recently the subject of a USARV command-wide message. The attention of all CONUS commands should be directed to the provisions of AR 624-200.

RECD TEL. COMMANDER:

A.R. Guenther

A.R. GUENTHER
CPT, AGC
ASST. ADJUTANT GENERAL

By furn:
HQ 1st Log Cmd
HQ 29th CA Co

GPOP-DT (8 Aug 68) 5th Ind
SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 29th Civil Affairs Co for Period
Ending 31 July 1968, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 3 DEC 1968

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the
Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters has evaluated subject report and forwarding indorsements and concurs in the report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:

2 Incl
nc

C. L. Shortt

C. L. SHORTT
CPT, AGC
Asst AG

51ST CA PLATOON

CPT	2920	PLAT CMDR	
LT	8104	ADMIN OFF	
E-6	71L40	PLAT SGT	
E-5	9B40	PUB SAF	
E-4	71B20	CLK TYP	
E-4	71B20	CLK TYP	

51ST CA LANGUAGE TEAM

E-5	04B30	INT	
E-4	04B10	ASST INT	
E-3	04B20	TRANS LATOR	

The 51st CA Platoon submits a separate morning report through the 29th CA Company. The platoon's assigned strength as of 31 July 1968 is:

1 Officer
6 Enlisted Men

Incl 1

29

41ST CA PLATOON			
CPT	2920	PLAT CMDR	
LT	08105	ADMIN OFF	
LT	07110	ENG OFF	
E-6	95B20	PUB SAF	
E-5	91B20	MED SP	
E-4	71B30	CLK TYP	
E-7	04C2L	EXP INT	

The following platoons of the 41st CA Company are attached OpCon and Admin to the 29th CA Company less requisitioning of personnel and promotions. The platoons' assigned strength as of 31 July 1968 is:

41-3AA Plat 41-5AA Plat 41-10AA Plat 41-16AA Plat

3 Off	3 Off	2 Off	3 Off
1 EM	2 EM	2 EM	2 EM

Aggregate Total: 11 Off
7 EM

Incl 2

UNCLASSIFIED

Security Classification

DOCUMENT CONTROL DATA - R & D

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